# **Savings Fitness Worksheets**

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## **Worksheet 1 - Goals and Priorities**

Enter your goals, listing both short-term and long-term goals. Then number them in order of priority. Think about what you need to do to accomplish each goal, including cost, how much you have set aside already, and what you are willing to do to reach the goal. Remember to make saving for retirement a priority!

### **SHORT-TERM GOALS (5 years or less)**

Priority	What is your goal?	By when?	How much will it cost?	What money do you have saved for this goal?	What are you willing to do?
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					

## **LONG-TERM GOALS (longer than 5 years)**

Priority	What is your goal?	By when?	How much will it cost?	What money do you have saved for this goal?	What are you willing to do?
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					

## **Worksheet 2 - Financial Documents Checklist**

To help you fill out the worksheets that follow, gather together recent copies of the documents and statements listed below. You can get many of these documents from your employer, financial institutions, and insurance companies. You can get your Social Security Statement with an estimate of your retirement benefits at <a href="https://www.socialsecurity.gov/mystatement">www.socialsecurity.gov/mystatement</a>. To get a free credit report every twelve months, visit <a href="https://www.annualcreditreport.com">www.annualcreditreport.com</a> or call 877-322-8228. The Resources section has additional websites, publications, and information to help you find

and understand these documents.			
Retirement Planning Documents and Statemen	ts		
☐ Workplace retirement plan(s), including t	he Summary Plan Description(	s) and benefit statement(s)	
☐ Individual IRA account(s)	, , , ,		
Retirement benefits information from cu	rent or former spouse		
☐ Annuity policies			
Social Security retirement benefits estimate	ate		
Tax Planning Documents			
☐ Income tax returns for last year (federal	state and local)		
Recent pay stub with cumulative year-to			
Financial Documents and Statements			
Investment-Related Documents and State	ments		
□ Pank and/or crodit union accounts (	cavings accounts (Ds)		
☐ Bank and/or credit union accounts (☐ Mutual funds	savings accounts, CDS)		
☐ Brokerage accounts			
Stocks held outside of mutual funds	or brokerage accounts		
☐ Bonds held outside of mutual funds	_		
Partnership or other business agreer	_		
Other	nerto		
Loan Documents, Statements, and Credit I	Reports		
☐ Student loans			
☐ Mortgage(s)			
☐ Car(s)			
☐ Credit cards			
☐ Other			
$\square$ Copy of recent credit report			
Insurance Documents and Statements			
☐ Health, disability, and long term care insu	ırance policies		
☐ Homeowners, renters, auto, and umbrel	a insurance policies		
☐ Life insurance policies			
Other			
Worksheet 3 - Bala	nce Sheet to	<b>Calculate Net Wort</b>	:h
Use this balance sheet to calculate your net	worth, which is the total value	of what you own (assets) minus what you owe (	(liabilities). Your goal is to
have a positive net worth that grows each y	ear.		
	bts), including any amounts yo	g and savings accounts, investments, and prope ou currently owe on a home mortgage, auto or s from your assets to get your net worth.	
ASSETS	VALUE	LIABILITIES	VALUE
Cash Reserves		Home mortgage	
Cash		Second mortgage	

Checking	Home equity loan		
Savings	Student loans		
Savings bonds	Auto loans		
Money market account	Credit cards		
Certificates of Deposit (CDs)	Credit Card		
SUBTOTAL	Other Debt		
Other Cash Reserves	Other Debt		
Other Cash Reserves		SUBTOTAL	
Home or Condo (if owned)			
Retirement Accounts			
401(k), 403(b)			
IRAs			
Annuities			
SUBTOTAL			
Other Retirement Accounts			
Other Retirement Accounts			
Personal Investments			
Mutual funds			
Stocks			
Bonds			
Brokerage accounts			
Real estate			
SUBTOTAL			
Other Personal Investments			

Other Personal Investments		
Other Assets		
Other Assets		
TOTAL ASSETS	TOTAL LIABILITIES	
NET WORTH (Total Assets minus Total Liabilities)		

## **Worksheet 4 - Retirement Saving**

Worksheet 4 can help you figure out how much you need to save each year towards your goal of a secure retirement. It estimates how much you should save as a percentage of your current salary to give you a savings goal. You can save through a retirement savings plan at work, on your own, or both. While the worksheet does not take into account your unique circumstances, it will give you an idea of how much to save each year and a clearer picture of your retirement goals. The sooner you start saving, the longer your savings have to grow.

As you fill out the worksheet, think about your plans including when you might retire, what savings you have, and how many years you hope to enjoy in retirement. Of course, your plans and circumstances may change, so update this worksheet periodically to reflect any changes.

Start by entering the number of years until you expect to retire. On the second line, enter your current annual salary – this is your total pay before taxes or other deductions. You can probably get this from your pay statement.

Next, enter the number of years you expect to live in retirement. People are living longer on average which means you could need retirement income for 30 years or more. Planning to live well into your 90s can help you have a secure retirement and avoid outliving your income.

Finally, if you have already started saving for retirement, enter the amount of your current retirement savings. The result is your target saving rate, or the percentage of your salary to save to reach your goal.

Years until retirement (retirement age minus current age)	
Current annual salary	
Years in retirement	
Tears in Tetarement	
Current savings	
Target saving rate	
% Calculate	

What goes into the estimate? What is a target saving rate?

For example, if you expect to retire in 35 years, live for about 30 years in retirement, currently earn \$50,000 a year, and have \$2,000 saved for retirement, your target saving rate is 9.5%.

Number of years until retirement	35
Current annual salary	\$50,000
Number of years in retirement	30
Current savings	\$2,000
Target saving rate	9.5%

#### What goes into the estimate

A 7 percent rate of return is used to keep it simple: remember investing involves risk, so investment returns, even assuming a diversified mix of stocks and bonds, go up and down and cannot be guaranteed. The worksheet, which uses a 3 percent inflation rate, increases your salary 3 percent each year but does not include any other increases.

The worksheet estimates how much savings you will need in addition to Social Security. On average, people need to replace about 80 percent of pre-retirement income for living in retirement. According to the Social Security Administration, Social Security retirement benefits replace about 40 percent of an average wage earner's income after retiring. This leaves approximately 40 percent to be replaced by retirement savings. However, keep in mind that this is an estimate and you may need more or less depending on your individual circumstances.

In retirement, while your investments will continue to grow, the cost of retirement likely will go up every year due to inflation – that is, today's dollars will buy less each year because the cost of living usually rises. The worksheet estimates how much savings you will need, taking into account the growth of your investments and inflation through your retirement, which could be 30 years or more. It also takes into account how much your current retirement savings will grow by the time you plan to retire.

### The target saving rate

The worksheet estimates your "target saving rate" or how much to save each year as a percentage of your salary. Saving this amount will help you reach your retirement goals.

The target rate includes any contributions your employer makes to a retirement savings plan for you, such as an employer matching contribution. If, for example, you are in a 401(k) plan in which you contribute 4 percent of your salary and your employer also contributes 4 percent, your saving rate would be 8 percent of your salary.

Remember that the worksheet only gives you a rough idea, a savings goal. Some may face higher expenses in retirement because of personal circumstances and choose to save more. Some may have other sources of income in retirement such as a defined benefit traditional pension or money from selling a home that would lower the target rate.

You can compare your results with what you are currently saving after you complete Worksheet 5. If you are currently saving less, don't be discouraged. The important thing is to start saving, even a small amount, and increase that amount when you can. Come back and update this worksheet from time to time to reflect changes and track your progress.

## **Worksheet 5 - Cash Flow Spending Plan**

Use the first two columns of Worksheet 5 to create a budget, sometimes called a cash flow spending plan or a guide for how you expect to spend your money. Don't worry if you don't have all of the information. You can make a guess now and fill in more specific information later.

Start with your monthly income. If you know your annual gross income, enter it and the worksheet will calculate the monthly amount. Most pay statements or pay stubs list your total (or gross) income and your deductions, along with your net take-home pay. You can find your net take-home pay by subtracting your deductions from your gross income. List all taxes, including federal, state, and local income taxes, plus Social Security and Medicare taxes.

Next, enter all of your monthly expenses. You can find an average for expenses that are different or don't occur each month, such as heating or car insurance, by adding up the bills for the year and dividing by 12. Once you enter your monthly income and expenses, the worksheet will calculate your annual cash flow spending plan or budget. If you are spending more than you earn, page 10 of the publication has ideas on how to cut expenses, increase income, or both.

Return to this worksheet at the end of the year to see how you did in following your budget. Use the last two columns to track your actual spending and click the calculate button to see how it is different from what you planned to spend. If what you spent is more than you planned, you will see a plus sign and if it was less, a minus sign. This will make it easier for you to add up the differences for the year and find ways to spend less, if you need to. Each year you can review your cash flow plan and make changes for the next year's budget to help you reach your financial goals.

Add up your total retirement savings, both at work and on your own. If your employer also contributes money to your retirement savings plan, in a 401(k) plan for example, enter that amount in the row labeled employer match and add it to your retirement savings to get the total retirement savings. The worksheet will divide the total retirement savings by gross income (the first line in the worksheet) to get your current retirement

savings rate. You can compare it to the results from Worksheet 4, which is your target saving rate.

	1 - Your current monthly and annual budget		2 - Tracking how y varies from what y	our income or spending ou planned
	Monthly	Annual	Actual Income/Spending	Was it more + or less - than planned?
INCOME:	'	'		
Gross income (total pay before deductions)				
Deductions	'	'		
Retirement contributions				
Health, dental, vision insurance				
Disability, long-term care insurance				
Life insurance				
Taxes				
Other deductions				
Net take-home pay (gross income minus deductions)				
Other income				
TOTAL NET INCOME				
EXPENSES:				
Savings and investing				
Retirement (outside of workplace plan)				
Cash reserves				
Down payment for a home				
Education				
Other				
Housing				
Mortgage (including condo fees)				
Rent				
Maintenance				
Food (at home)				
Utilities				
Electricity				
Heat				
Internet/cable				
Phones				
Water/sewer				
Clothing				
Taxes				
Real estate				
Other property taxes				
Other taxes				
Insurance				
Homeowner or renter				

Car		
Life (if purchasing outside of work)		
Disability, long-term care(if purchasing outside of work)		
Loan payments		
Car		
Credit card		
Education		
Other		
Caregiving		
Child care		
Elder care		
Personal care		
Haircut		
Dry cleaning		
Gym		
Other		
Transportation		
Car repairs and maintenance		
Gas		
Parking		
Public transportation		
Health care – out-of-pocket spending		
Health, dental, vision insurance (if purchasing outside of work)		
Doctor visits		
Hospital		
Medicine		
Over-the-counter medicine		
Noncovered items		
Travel/vacations		
Entertainment		
Eating out		
Hobbies		
Movies/theatre		
Charitable contributions		
Other		
Gifts		
Membership dues		
Pet-related costs		
TOTAL EXPENSES		
TOTAL NET INCOME – TOTAL EXPENSES		
Subtotal retirement savings (Workplace plan contributions + saving on your own		

Employer match		
Total Retirement Savings		
Current retirement savings rate as a percentage of gross income (total retirement savings $\div$ gross income)		
Target savings rate (from Worksheet 4)		

Calculate

## **Worksheet 6 - Debt Reduction**

This worksheet will help you organize your debt so that you can plan how you will pay down each debt and track your progress. Money that goes to pay interest, late fees, and old bills could be saved and invested to earn more for retirement and other goals.

In Worksheet 6, list your home mortgage first, if you have one. Then list your auto loans, student loans, any credit card debts, or other money that you owe. In the final column, write down which debts you will pay off first, second, and so on. Generally, you may want to pay off the debts with the highest interest rates first. However, if you have a debt with a small balance, you may want to pay it off to get it off your list. The Resources section provides websites and publications on how to get a copy of your credit report, repair your credit, calculate how long it will take to pay off credit card debt, and other information.

Priority	Creditor	Interest Rate	Balance	Required minimum monthly payment	Planned payment
1		%			
2		%			
3		%			
4		%			
5		%			